

# REPORT

**DATE:** May 8, 2008

**TO:** Transportation and Communications Committee

**FROM:** Naresh Amatya, Acting Manager, Transportation Planning  
amatya@scag.ca.gov, (213) 236-1813

**SUBJECT:** Regional Transit Center in the City of Torrance

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL:**



## RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Recommend inclusion of the proposed Regional Transit Center in the City of Torrance in the Strategic Plan of the 2008 RTP.

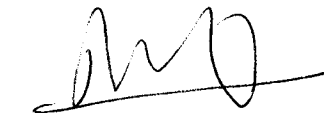
## BACKGROUND:

Staff has received a request from the City of Torrance to include a Regional Transit Center project within the City of Torrance into the Strategic Plan of the 2008 RTP. This is a new project that is not included in any of SCAG's planning or programming documents. SCAG Staff has reviewed the attached information provided by the City of Torrance in support of this project. Based on the preliminary review of the information provided, staff supports proposed request to include this project in the Strategic Plan of the 2008 RTP.

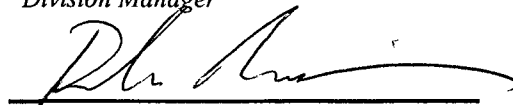
## FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

Reviewed by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*Division Manager*

Reviewed by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*Department Director*

Reviewed by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*Chief Financial Officer*



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# CITY OF TORRANCE

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## TRANSIT DEPARTMENT

Kim Turner  
Transit Director

310.618.6245  
[ktturner@torrnet.com](mailto:ktturner@torrnet.com)

April 9, 2008

The Honorable Alan Wapner, Chair  
SCAG Transportation and Communications Committee

Dear Chair Wapner:

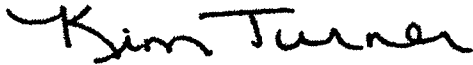
We would like consideration to have our Regional Transit Center (RTC) in the City of Torrance included in SCAG's RTP Strategic Plan. Specifically, we would like consideration under Action Items 5.1(d) on the TCC agenda for April 11, 2008. We understand the lateness of our request and we would appreciate any consideration for what we believe is a very worthwhile capital project.

We have enclosed a fact sheet on our RTC project, Transit Center Project Revision PowerPoint presentation, and drawings of the plans to extend Del Amo Blvd. from Crenshaw Boulevard through to Madrona Avenue. This extension, anticipated to be completed in mid-2011 is critical in facilitating the usage of the site as a bus transfer station. Initially, the site would be used as a bus transfer station. The site lies on the Harbor Subdivision which is included in Metro's Strategic Unfunded Tier 2 projects. The City of Torrance believes this site would be ideal for a rail station on a future light rail line on the Harbor Subdivision. Also included is a preliminary map showing possible routings of local services into this RTC.

We have enclosed support letters for this project from Senator Oropeza (28<sup>th</sup> District), Assemblymember Lieu (53<sup>rd</sup> District), Los Angeles County Supervisor Knabe, and the South Bay Cities Council of Governments (SBCCOG). We have also included the current list of projects for the SBCCOG which includes this project. The City of Torrance has had initial discussions with Rep. Jane Harman (36<sup>th</sup> District) and her staff regarding funding for this project.

The City of Torrance is also working in cooperation with the City of Redondo Beach in both of our cities' efforts to build transit centers in our cities.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kim Turner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kim Turner  
Transit Director

Enclosures:

1. South Bay Regional Transit Centers
2. Transit Center Project Revision PowerPoint presentation
3. Drawing of Del Amo Blvd extension to Crenshaw Blvd
4. Map of proposed service to COT RTC
5. February 20, 2008 Support Letter from Assemblymember Lieu and Senator Oropeza
6. February 22, 2008 Support Letter from Supervisor Knabe
7. January 28, 2008 Support Letter from South Bay Cities COG
8. April 5, 2008 List of South Bay Transportation Projects (SBCCOG)

# South Bay Regional Transit Centers

## PROJECT FAST FACTS

Purpose: To develop two new regional Transit Centers in the City of Torrance and the City of Redondo Beach.

Site Acquisition (Est.)	Fall 2008
Planned Start Date:	Fall 2009
Completion Date:	Fall 2011

### Funding:

- Regional Transit Centers are a High Priority funding project
- Torrance - \$1.5 Million Planning Grant (Initial)
- Redondo Beach - \$2.2 Million

### Project Locations:

- Redondo Transit Center – South Bay Galleria (Kingsdale Avenue)
- Torrance Transit Center – Crenshaw Blvd. and Del Amo Blvd.

### Benefits of A Regional Project For Redondo, Torrance and the South Bay:

- Leveraging of existing funds and allows for joint funding requests in the future per a regional approach
- Avoids project duplication by the sharing of services and resources
- Allows for ease of future service expansion for both cities
- Crenshaw Transit Center location is adjacent to the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (METRO) owned rail line
- Direct access to:
  - ❖ 405 Freeway High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Lanes, Regional Rapid services, and Existing light rail services
- Consistent with SCAG's Regional Transportation Plan
- Highest and best use of existing land for both agencies
- A hub for local and regional connectivity for:
  - ❖ Torrance Transit System, Beach Cities Transit, Gardena Transit, Municipal Area Express (MAX), Los Angeles County Metro
- Parking spaces for Rideshare Van/Carpool participants
- Enhanced shelters, fare vending machines and public restrooms

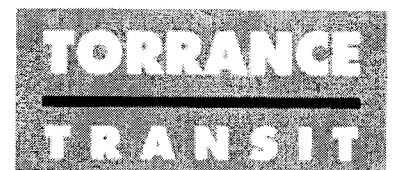
### TTS Annual Ridership Data (Lines Operating Near the Proposed Centers):

#### **South Bay Galleria**

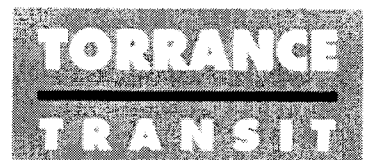
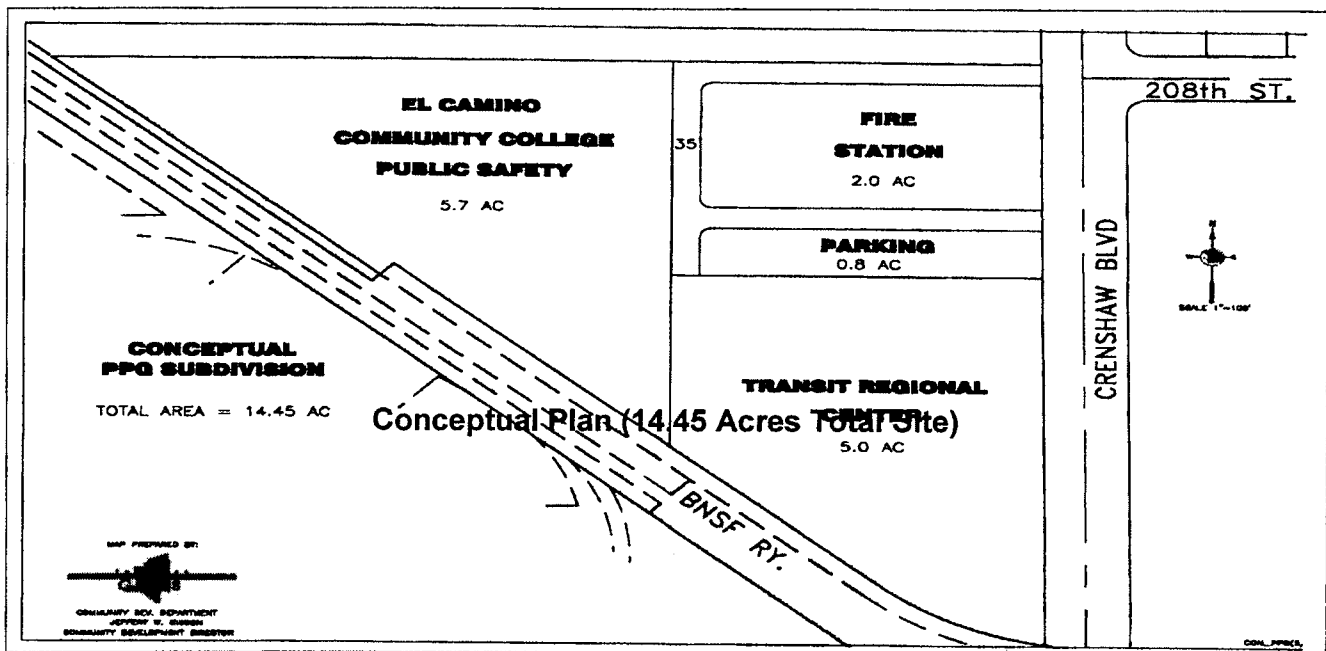
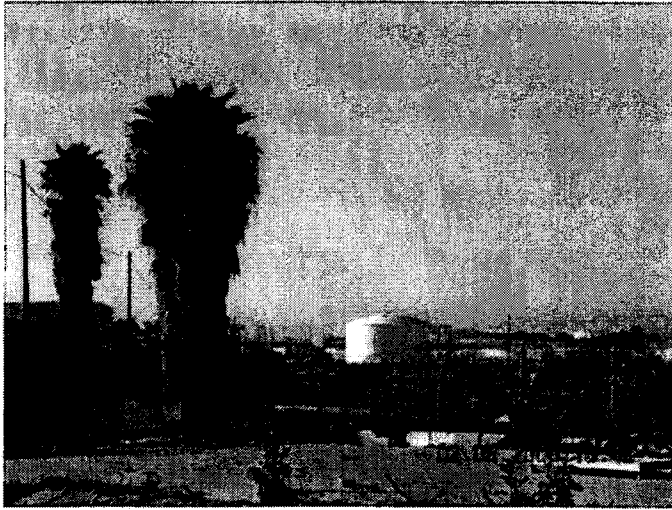
Route	Boardings	Alightings
Line 2 (NB)	10,230	12,710
Line 2 (SB)	2,170	9,610
Line 8 (NB)	17,014	48,508
Line 8 (SB)	10,498	35,838

#### **Crenshaw Blvd. And Del Amo Blvd.**

Route	Boardings	Alightings
Line 5 (NB)	1,285	1,028
Line 5 (SB)	2,570	3,598
MAX 3 (AM)	3,341	N/A - Rapid
MAX 3 (PM)	5,397	N/A - Rapid



## Photographs of Potential Transit Center Site At Crenshaw and Del Amo (Current State)



# PROPOSED SERVICE TO REGIONAL TRANSIT CENTER

1307



STATE CAPITOL  
P.O. BOX 942849  
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0053  
(916) 319-2053  
FAX (916) 319-2153  
DISTRICT OFFICE  
500 CENTER STREET  
EL SEGUNDO, CA 90245  
(310) 615-3515  
FAX (310) 615-3520

assemblymember.lieu@assembly.ca.gov

# Assembly California Legislature



**TED W. LIEU**  
FIFTY-THIRD ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

COMMITTEE MEMBER  
BANKING AND FINANCE, CHAIR  
APPROPRIATIONS  
VETERANS AFFAIRS  
WATER, PARKS AND WILDLIFE  
SELECT COMMITTEE  
AEROSPACE, CHAIR

February 20, 2008

The Honorable Pam O'Connor  
Chair, Metropolitan Transportation Authority  
One Gateway Plaza  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

## RE: TORRANCE TRANSIT CENTER

Dear Chair O'Connor:

As the elected representatives of the City of Torrance, we are jointly writing to respectfully request that the Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority add a proposed transit center located in Torrance to Metro's Regional Transportation Plan.

As you know, the City of Torrance is the 12<sup>th</sup> largest city in California and the sixth largest in Los Angeles County with a night time population of approximately 150,000 residents. During working hours, the city's population swells to more than 600,000, many of whom use the major arterials that flow from the 405 and 110 freeways. This surge of traffic leaves the city with some of the most congested streets anywhere in the county.

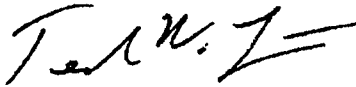
That said the city has no viable transit center or hub. The lack of a significant transit center has nothing to do with the city's lack of desire for such a facility, but rather is due to a lack of available land large enough to be utilized for such a purpose. However, a prime piece of real estate has recently become available that would not only serve the City's purposes, but would also serve regional transit needs and the long-term interests of Metro.

The parcel under consideration by the city is situated next to an existing rail line owned by Metro. The undeveloped property is owned by Pittsburg Paint & Glass (PPG) and they have expressed an interest in selling this parcel to the City of Torrance at a competitive price should Torrance be able to secure funding. The city will contribute its own funds to the project, but is unable to secure the full amount. The city is soliciting additional funds from the federal government and from Metro. On behalf of the valued members of my constituency, I respectfully urge you to give the City of Torrance the utmost consideration for this vital project and also ask for your assistance to have this

item placed in Metro's Regional Transportation Plan so it may be given consideration for funding.

Thank you for your attention to this request. Please do not hesitate to contact either of us, our offices, or the City of Torrance directly with any questions that you may have.

Sincerely,



TED W. LIEU  
Assemblymember, 53<sup>rd</sup> District



JENNY OROPEZA  
State Senator, 28<sup>th</sup> District

Cc: Roger Snoble, CEO, Metro  
The Honorable Frank Scotto, Mayor, City of Torrance  
LeRoy J. Jackson, City Manager, City of Torrance





# BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

822 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION / LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012  
Telephone (213) 974-4444 / FAX (213) 626-6941

**DON KNABE**

CHAIRMAN PRO-TEM

February 22, 2008

The Honorable Pam O'Connor  
Chairperson  
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority  
One Gateway Plaza  
Los Angeles, California 90012-2952

COUNCIL BOXES

2/27/08

RE REQUEST OF

cc: Kim Turner  
Eleanor B. Jones

2008 FEB 27 PM 6:41

OFFICE OF THE  
MAYOR & COUNCIL

Dear Chair  O'Connor:

**SUBJECT: TORRANCE TRANSIT CENTER**

On behalf of the City of Torrance, an important City and constituency within my District, I respectfully request that the Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) add a proposed transit center located in Torrance to Metro's Regional Transportation Plan.

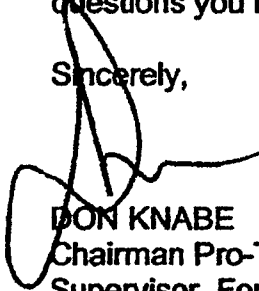
As you know, the City of Torrance is the 12<sup>th</sup> largest City in California, and the fourth largest in Los Angeles County with a night time population of approximately 150,000 residents. That said, the City has no viable transit center or hub. The lack of a significant transit center has nothing to do with the City's lack of desire for such a facility, but rather is due to a lack of available land large enough to be utilized for such a purpose. However, a prime piece of real estate has recently become available that would not only serve the City's purposes, but would also serve regional transit needs and the long-term interests of Metro.

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The Honorable Pam O'Connor  
February 22, 2008  
Page 2

Thank you for your attention to this request. Please contact me, or my South Bay Deputy Steve Napolitano, at (310) 222-3015, or the City of Torrance directly with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "DON KNABE", with a large, stylized loop at the end.

DON KNABE  
Chairman Pro-Tem  
Supervisor, Fourth District  
County of Los Angeles

DK:ha

c: Roger Snoble, CEO, Metro  
Mayor Frank Scotto, City of Torrance  
LeRoy J. Jackson, City Manager, City of Torrance



**SOUTH BAY CITIES  
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

5033 Rockvalley Road  
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275  
(310) 377-8987  
[sbccog@southbaycities.org](mailto:sbccog@southbaycities.org)  
[www.southbaycities.org](http://www.southbaycities.org)

January 28, 2008

COUNCIL BOXES 2/4/08  
ATT. REQUEST OF FB

Mayor Frank Scotto and Members of the City Council  
City of Torrance

Re: Support for Torrance Regional Transit Center Proposal

As you are aware, the South Bay Cities Council of Governments (SBCCOG) works to promote transit service in the South Bay. For this reason we are very supportive of the proposal that the City of Torrance is developing to establish a regional transit center adjacent to the Harbor Subdivision railway at approximately Crenshaw and Maricopa Avenue. This right-of-way is publicly owned by the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LA Metro) and is currently under study for future passenger services.

Based on our conversation with your staff, it is very clear that Torrance needs a transit center immediately. We are supportive of this worthy project. By establishing as quickly as possible a regional transit center that provides public transit accessibility now and in the future will serve a possible rail line and the freeway system, the City of Torrance would significantly improve services and increase coordination. It also would make all transit services more attractive and convenient for South Bay patrons.

Although the South Bay is served with bus transit by the local municipal operators and Metro, our area has long been under-served in the regional rail system planning. We maintain our strong interest in using the Harbor Subdivision for future rail service but we understand that it will be a long time in coming. Therefore, the need for a transit center is even more acute.

The SBCCOG stands ready to support the city as this proposal goes forward. Please let us know if there are ways that we can assist to bring this center to fruition.

Sincerely,

*Jacki Bacharach*

Jacki Bacharach  
SBCCOG Executive Director

cc: LeRoy Jackson, City Manager, Torrance  
Pam O'Connor, Chair, LA Metro  
Claudette Moody, L.A. Metro

2008 FEB -4 PM 4:47  
OFFICE OF THE  
MAYOR & COUNCIL

**LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN ACTION**

Carson El Segundo Gardena Hawthorne Hermosa Beach Inglewood Lawndale Lomita Los Angeles Manhattan Beach  
Palos Verdes Estates Rancho Palos Verdes Redondo Beach Rolling Hills Rolling Hills Estates Torrance